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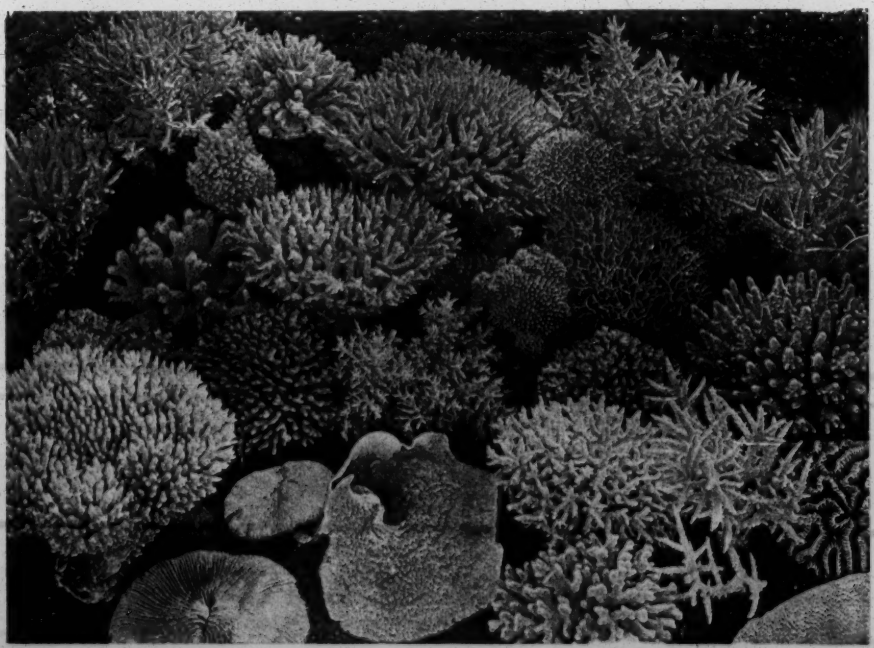

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CORALS FROM THE AUSTRALIAN BARRIER REEF, NORTH QUEENSLAND

Ages of time and the lives of myriads of coral polyps have gone to make up countless forms like these in the Great Barrier Reef off the coast of Queensland, the largest coral formation in the world, 1,200 miles in length. The explorer Captain James Cook almost lost his ship on the reef in 1870; but today, when the openings through it are known and charted, as well as the channel which it protects, the barrier is regarded as a boon to coasting vessels.

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The Maritza: Turkey's "Fifty-Four-Forty or Fight"

THE MARITZA RIVER, the boundary of the European territory which the victorious Turks demanded as soon as they drove the Greeks from Asia Minor, and which they now hold, is like the Rhine, between France and Germany, a symbol and a bone of contention. In this case the contenders are Bulgar, Greek and Turk.

Each of these three peoples has claimed the Maritza Valley as belonging to it on ethnic grounds, and such is the racial mix-up in Thrace and the portion of Macedonia which adjoins it, that each has at least some excuse for its claims. Thrace—and indeed all of Rumelia or Rumili, as the Turks called the portions of Europe which their swords conquered—has for five hundred years been in the anomalous condition of being Turkish territory, yet more Christian than Mohammedan, more alien than Turk. Moreover, the non-Turks-non-Mohammedans were more intelligent and more industrious than the Moslems, a fact which has heightened the non-Turkish aspect of the country in spite of heavy taxation, persecution and massacre which the non-Turks have had placed on their shoulders.

European Turkey Was "Occupied Territory"

More or less unconsciously the Turks seem, throughout their tenure of half a millennium in Europe, to have considered themselves engaged in a military occupation. In the trade and industry of the towns and cities they did not and could not compete with the Greeks and Jews and Armenians; and in the agricultural pursuits of the country they were equally outclassed by the Bulgars and Vlachs and the occasional Greeks who are farmers. Many of the Turks confined their activities to the cities where they were rulers or soldiers. Those who led the lives of peasants never wholly shook off their nomadism. They were less efficient than their despised Christian neighbors, a fact which led to many a pillaging and massacring expedition; for the Moslems, however humble their station, were armed, while the Christians were not.

Eastern Thrace between the Straits and the Maritza River is of little value agriculturally. It is an unattractive, dreary, monotonous plain with here and there swampy depressions. Large areas of the territory are untilled and in summer they give the country the appearance of a desert. Furious fighting, with little quarter, raged over this region during the Balkan War of 1912-13, as Bulgar and Turkish arms were alternately successful. Turkish villages were destroyed first, and soon after Bulgarian villages suffered a similar fate. When the Bulgarians finally controlled the region many Turks, resigned to fate, trekked to Asia Minor; and under the Greek control of the past few years that movement continued. As a result Thrace when it was turned back to Turkey was even more strikingly non-Turkish than in the past.

Adrianople First Turk Capital

On the Maritza and in Thrace, barely 25 miles from the present Bulgarian border, is Adrianople, second city of old European Turkey, and a strong senti-

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AT LAND'S END, ENGLAND: THIRTY MILES OUT IN THE ATLANTIC LIE THE SCILLIES. ON THE LEFT OF THE PICTURE MAY BE SEEN WHAT ARE POPULARLY KNOWN AS THE "LAST TWO STONES IN ENGLAND"

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Queensland: A State Without a Senate

QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA, entered the limelight recently by becoming the first "two chambered democracy" of the world to abolish its upper house.

The step is a reminder that although Australia began its independent political career long after the launching of the United States, yet it has set some examples in the past in the creation of political machinery, such as the Australian ballot and universal suffrage, that America has followed. But the commonwealth and its states have tried other political experiments which the great republic of the west has so far merely watched from afar. Perhaps the "no senate plan" of Queensland may be grouped, in so far as the United States is concerned, with the Australian federal constitutional referendum and proportional representation.

Queensland Dwarfs Texas

Queensland—and Australia too, for that matter—loses in apparent size because of its great distance from us. In reality it is a huge state, completely dwarfing Texas, our largest commonwealth. Its coast-line is more than 2,200 miles long and is equivalent to that of the Eastern United States from northern Massachusetts down the Atlantic, around Florida and to Mobile.

Since Queensland is located in the southern hemisphere, its hot regions are to the north, its cooler regions to the south. Its northernmost projection, Cape York Peninsula, may, then, be compared roughly to Florida, though Cape York is much closer to the equator. To be as close to the equator as Queensland, Florida would have to be shoved some 1,200 miles farther south until Key West touched the Isthmus of Panama. If Australia could be towed to our part of the world, where we could compare it with the regions we know, it would have to be turned about so that the warm regions would correspond. If it can be imagined that this were done and Cape York placed near the Canal Zone, so extensive is the State of Queensland that it would cover most of the vast expanse of the Gulf of Mexico.

Queensland's area is 670,000 square miles. It is almost as great as the combined areas of all States east of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers and the western line of Pennsylvania, extending from Maine to Florida.

Working for a "White Australia"

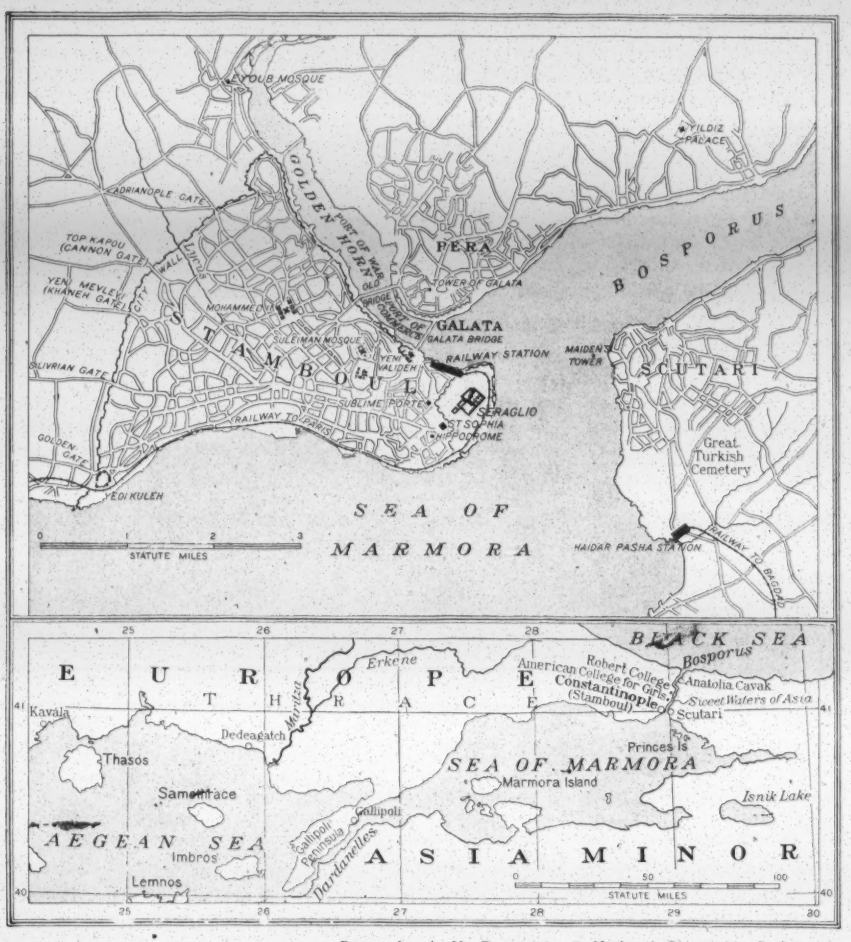
Naturally, colonization in Queensland began along its southern coast, its mildest region climatically. Thanks to its mountains which parallel the coast, the climate of the state is not as hot as its latitude would indicate. The far northern section, however, is truly tropical and has not been developed to any great extent. In the southern and middle sections are thriving ports and cities. Brisbane, the capital, is about the size of Bridgeport, Connecticut, or Houston, Texas. The state's population of about three-quarters of a million—approximately that of Oregon—is almost wholly of British origin.

The development of the tropical portions of Queensland has been slower

mental reason for the Turk's desire once more to possess Thrace. Thracian land was the first in Europe to fall under Turkish sway; and while Constantinople still remained Byzantine, Adrianople was the Ottoman capital. From there they crushed the Serbians, and finally, in 1453, seized the great city on the Straits. There, though in ruins, is the first European palace of the Sultans and the grave of the first Sultan, Murad.

Formerly Adrianople was a thriving center of trade with the far flung regions of Rumili. But as the European portion of the Ottoman Empire dwindled, and Bucharest, Athens, Belgrade and Sofia, released from Turkish control, grew from dingy mud villages to bustling towns, Adrianople lost ground. Until recently the city contained about 50,000 inhabitants with the Greeks, Bulgars, Jews and other non-Moslem peoples greatly outnumbering the Moslems.

Bulletin No. 1, April 16, 1923.



Drawn by A. H. Bumstead. *© National Geographic Society.*

SKETCH MAP OF CONSTANTINOPLE AND THE MARITZA

The assurance that they would continue to hold Constantinople prompted the Turks to insist on a "back country" for it. The Maritza, western boundary of the region granted to Turkey in Europe, is shown in the lower map.

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The Scillies: Islands of Mid-Winter Roses—and Pirates

WHILE Americans are getting their winter and early spring vegetables from Florida and Bermuda, Englishmen are calling on the Scilly Islands to furnish their first fruits and their earliest out-door-grown flowers as well. For these little points of land, 30 miles southwest of Land's End, off in the warm Atlantic, have a surprisingly mild climate.

Like Scylla of classic fame, after whom it has been said the islands were named, the rocky shores of the Scilly Islands have proved hungry monsters of the deep for mariners who dared to guide ships through their treacherous waters.

In 1707 Sir Cloudesley Shovel's fleet was thrown upon the rocks and two thousand men perished. His flagship was lost and two men-of-war sank beneath the waves, while two fireships of his squadron ran aground and the remainder barely escaped. There is an old saying that nine out of every ten natives of Scilly perish in the sea, but this is no longer true, since the building of the lonely Bishop Light on an outlying rock to the southwest and the provision of numerous other lighthouses and lightships in the islands.

When Phoenicians Bought Tin in Britain

The history of the islands has always been tinged with fascinating romance. Though the theory that they are the Cassiterides or "Tin Islands," of Herodotus has been abandoned, they might well have been the trading center where the Phoenicians met the early Britons and bartered for tin from the mines of Cornwall. At any rate, they were inhabited in prehistoric times, for the inhabitants have left numerous barrows and Kistvaens, or sepulchral chambers of stone, to tell of their existence on the islands.

The Scillies are generally accorded to be the legendary country of Lyonnesse, the scene of many incidents which figure in the Arthurian romances and the Cornish folklore, as well as the land of the fervid and tragic Tristan and Iseult. Athelstan made a vow before the shrine of St. Burian that he would go to the islands and conquer them, and upon them the scene of Sir Walter Besant's novel, "Armorel of Lyonnesse," is laid. There is an account in an early English chronicle describing the flourishing state of Lyonnesse and how it suddenly subsided beneath the sea.

Once Haunts of Pirates

As a matter of geologic knowledge the islands are merely the ragged summits of the same granite ridge that forms the backbone of Cornwall. One old family bears on its coat of arms a horse escaping from the sea, commemorating the fleetness of the charger which saved one of its ancestors from being swallowed up by the waves when this part of the coast sank. In ancient times the Scillies are supposed to have been the haunts of pirates and smugglers, and the forty mile trip from them to Penzance makes the traveler feel that no one less hardy than the Gilbert and Sullivan product of pirate at least should attempt it.

Today the Scillies have some of the finest vegetable gardens in England. But even more important are the flowers grown on the islands. The air is warm

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than that of similar regions in other parts of the world because of the determination of the citizens of the state and of the entire Commonwealth to maintain a "white Australia." The black and yellow races have been excluded in recent years, some being deported. Not more than 20,000 of the black aborigines remain in the state and they are steadily decreasing in numbers.

To help the development toward a "white Australia" the federal government grants a bounty on sugar-cane raised by white labor, and a considerable sugar industry has been built up in the fertile coast valleys of Queensland. Over behind its mountains the state has a great plains region like that of the United States. There and on the lower hills are raised the vast herds which make Queensland the premier cattle state of Australia and among the leaders in sheep raising.

Had "Senate" Appointed for Life

The six states which make up the commonwealth of Australia were colonies before federation in 1901 and had governments differing somewhat from each other. States' rights were jealously guarded when the federal constitution was adopted, the several states keeping their original political machinery. All of the states had parliaments of two houses corresponding to the senate and house of representatives of American States. In four states both houses were elected, but in two, New South Wales and Queensland, the "senators" were appointed for life by the King of England. The members of the single chamber which remains in Queensland are elected, and the state without a "conservative balance wheel," becomes the most democratic of the Commonwealth's units.

Bulletin No. 2, April 16, 1923.

Form for Renewal of Bulletin Requests

Many requests for the Geographic News Bulletin were made for the year ending with an April, 1923, issue. If you desire the Bulletins continued kindly notify The Society promptly. The attached form may be used:

School Service Department
National Geographic Society
Washington, D. C.

Kindly send ..... copies of the Geographic News Bulletin for the school year beginning with the issue of April 2, for class room use, to

Name .....

Address for sending Bulletins .....

City ..... State .....

I am a teacher in ..... school ..... grade

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Johannesburg: City of Gold

THE reported discovery in South Africa of a large quantity of gold said to have been hidden by former President Kruger of the Boer Republic, brings to mind Johannesburg—or "Joburg" as it is known to the initiated—South Africa's wonder city that gold built.

The city was born of the greatest gold discovery known to the modern world, and rose to the stature of a city in the space of a few years practically "on the diggins." It is almost on the crest of "the Rand" (officially Witwatersrand), the 50-mile ridge of gold-bearing conglomerate from which the world's greatest stream of gold has flowed since 1906 when production passed that of all North America.

Half World's Annual Gold

Before the World War the annual recovery of gold from the Rand reached $175,000,000, and by 1920 the output had again climbed to $138,000,000, an amount which represented roughly half of the entire world production in that year. In 1921 the peak so far attained was reached when gold valued at about $200,000,000 was taken from the Rand.

Johannesburg is situated about midway along the Rand, with a number of suburbs strung out on the slopes of the ridge. Much of the tremendous wealth that has come out of the reef has flowed abroad, a fact, incidentally, which is responsible for much of the bitterness among the white miners and the Boer farmers. But some of the millionaires and sub-millionaires have spent lavishly in the country, and these expenditures, as well as the millions spent in operation, have enriched Johannesburg. Except three cities near the Mediterranean, which may be considered as belonging to a separate civilization, Johannesburg is the metropolis of Africa. It has a population of more than 250,000 of which about 150,000 are white.

An Up-to-the-Minute City

It is a city of many substantial buildings, some of them of many stories, resembling more nearly American structures than those of Europe. Wide asphalted streets, theaters, luxurious clubs, and the finest hotel south of the equator are other features that go to make "Joburg" an up-to-date, comfortable city. In the suburbs are many fine residences, and the country club will compare favorably with similar institutions on any of the six continents.

But despite its opulence Johannesburg still has some of the earmarks of a mining camp. In the sumptuous clubs booted prospectors are to be seen side by side with carefully manicured financiers. The iron-roofed shack of the early days has not entirely disappeared; gambling hells and grog shops can be found with ease by miners in the city to spend their earnings in the traditional way of the mining camp. Nor is the city, for all its public improvements and architecture, entirely a twentieth century white man's community. More than 100,000 African natives live within its limits. Motor cars predominate in the traffic, but the heavy Boer wagon has not been thrust entirely out of the picture. And one can ride over the asphalt—or could a few years ago—in a "rickshaw" drawn by a feather bedecked Zulu.

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and laden with moisture, and from December to June most of the inhabitants are occupied in picking, packing and sending away the flowers. Great fields of narcissuses are grown, the fuchsias, geraniums and myrtles are said to be immense in size, and roses bloom in mid-winter. Even the hedges are made of flowering plants. Fishing, the occupation of the early inhabitants, still remains an important industry, however, for lobsters must be furnished the London epicure.

Only five of the islands are inhabited—St. Mary's, Tresco, St. Martin's, St. Agnes, and Bryher—and Hugh Town on St. Mary's is the capital. Above this city towers Star Castle of Elizabethan days. Until the recent acquisition of the islands by the Prince of Wales, they were governed by a lord proprietor from the time of Elizabeth.

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SHEARING SHEEP: JIMBOW, WEST QUEENSLAND

A good shearer will shear one hundred sheep a day and is paid six cents a head. The shearing season begins in July and ends in November. Men come from all parts of the world to become shearers, and they travel from sheep station to sheep station as the tramp printer used to travel from city to city.

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Michoacan: A State You May Not Have Met

MICHOACAN, March, 1922.—No, the printer didn't make a mistake. There's another one. But it happens to be a state in Mexico instead of in the United States; and it is hotter both climatically and temperamentally than the Wolverine State.

Kept His Boots On

Michoacan is not very well known to the outside world, chiefly because under the present railroad development the state is not on the road to any place. If you go into Michoacan you go because that is your destination. Many modern forces which have molded other parts of Mexico, have not, therefore, made themselves felt very strongly in Michoacan. A number of its quiet little towns of eight to ten thousand souls, descendants of early Spanish settlers, are the centers of conservatism. But paradoxically, the state as a whole has always been a veritable revolutionary cauldron, for its large Indian population seems to inherit the combativeness of ancestors who were never conquered by the Aztecs. Like a few European nobles who may wear their hats in the presence of their king, the old chief of the Michoacan natives alone had the right to stalk into the presence of Montezuma with his boots on.

Hidalgo, who in 1810 started the revolution against Spain which resulted finally in the formation of the Mexican Republic, first raised his standard in Michoacan, and after his execution Morelos, a native of the same state, continued to keep the fight alive. During this early period Michoacan was the "Valley Forge" of the Mexican revolution. Morelia, the capital of Michoacan, is named after this local as well as national hero—one of the few towns of prominence anywhere named after a man born within it. The original name was discarded a few years after Morelos' death.

Coast-Line Without a Port

Michoacan has a coast-line of 100 miles on the Pacific but not a single port. The situation in Central America is directly reversed here. In Central America the Pacific coast is the region of development, heavy population and culture; Michoacan's Pacific coast is largely waste land very sparsely settled. A relatively few miles inland the Sierra Madre mountains form a great rampart from the Pacific and among these mountains and on the plateau inland is centered the life of the state.

The mountainous portion of Michoacan is the Switzerland of Mexico, a region abounding in scenic beauty unsurpassed elsewhere in the republic. There are high mountains, deep valleys, and the most beautiful lakes in the republic. Forming part of the western boundary of state is Lake Chapala, the largest body of fresh water south of Lake Michigan and north of Lake Nicaragua. It is to this hill-encircled, forest-rimmed lake that many of the wild ducks and geese are winging their way when their southward flight appraises the people of the Michigan of the north that winter is approaching. Tens of thousands of these fowl are killed on Lake Chapala every winter, but apparently without materially reducing their numbers.

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City Has Had Stormy Time

Turbulence has been the lot of Johannesburg since its birth in 1885, and many of its problems have pivoted around the mine owners and laborers. The Boer War really grew out of the discovery of gold on the Rand and the influx of thousands of Englishmen. The ill-starred raid of Jameson was directed against Johannesburg, and at the same time the city was seized from within by the British mine operatives. Just before the outbreak of the World War there was an uprising of the white miners around Johannesburg very similar to the one in 1922, but the difficulties were patched up because of the greater conflict.

The obtaining of labor for the Rand mines has always been a problem of considerable proportions. With the mines working at capacity something over 250,000 workers are needed. The local negroes preferred work on the farms and among the livestock of the Boers. White men in sufficient numbers could not be obtained, nor could the owners afford to pay exclusively white men's wages. At one time 50,000 Chinese coolies were imported, but their presence caused much trouble and in 1910 the last of them were repatriated. In recent years tens of thousands of negroes from Portuguese East Africa have been brought in to supplement the local negroes that could be induced to work, and the 25,000 more or less skilled white workers.

Bulletin No. 4, April 16, 1923.

Note to Teachers

Following is a partial bibliography, extracted from "The Cumulative Index of the National Geographic Magazine" (1899-1922, inclusive), which index may now be had from the headquarters of the National Geographic Society. (Cloth $1.50, postpaid in U. S. A.) A limited supply of some numbers of The Geographic may be ordered from The Society's offices at the prices named. Those numbers marked with an asterisk (*) are out of print.

Turkey: Changing Map in the Balkans, The. By Frederick Moore. Vol. XXIV, pp. 199-226, 27 ills., 1 page map, Feb., 1913. (*)

Great Turk and His Lost Provinces, The. By William E. Curtis. Vol. XIV, pp. 45-61, 7 ills., Feb., 1903. (*)

Turks: Races of Europe, The. By Edwin A. Grosvenor, L.H.D., LL.D. Vol XXXIV, pp. 441-533, 62 ills., 2 page maps, 1 insert, Dec., 1918. 50c.

Australia: Lovely Australia, the Unique Continent. By Herbert E. Gregory. Vol. XXX, pp. 473-568, 68 ills., 8 page and two-page maps, Dec., 1916. (*)

Africa: Great Britain's Bread Upon the Waters: Canada and Her Other Daughters. By William Howard Taft. Vol. XXIX, pp. 217-272, 56 ills., March, 1916. 50c.

British South Africa and the Transvaal. By F. F. Hilder. Vol. XI, pp. 81-96, 7 ills., March 1900. 75c.

Mexico: Mexico and Mexicans. By William Joseph Showalter. Vol. XXV, pp. 471-493, 17 ills., May, 1914. (*)

Notes on Southern Mexico. (Agricultural Products.) By G. N. Collins and C. B. Doyle. Vol. XXII, pp. 301-320, 16 ills., 1 half-page map, March, 1911. (*)

Our Neighbor, Mexico. By John Birkinbine. Vol. XXII, pp. 475-508, 26 ills., May, 1911. 75c.

City Known for Its Candies

Because of the great variety of its products Michoacan might almost stand alone. It is the greatest cereal growing state of the republic, and in addition is a heavy producer of coffee to drink with the cereals, sugar to sweeten the coffee, fruits for a side dish, vanilla with which to flavor the family desserts, wines to top off with, and tobacco with which to make the after-dinner cigar. Even the cabinet woods with which to make handsome dinner tables are produced in abundance. And sweetmeats for the drawing room are not lacking. Morelia is known all over Mexico, even by those whose knowledge of its rich historical associations is somewhat hazy, because of an especially toothsome concoction of candied quinces.

Bulletin No. 5, April 16, 1923.

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MEXICAN SWEETMEAT VENDERS

Men of this type have made the name of Morelia in the State of Michoacan, famous throughout a large part of the republic.